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Application Serial No.: 10/776,075

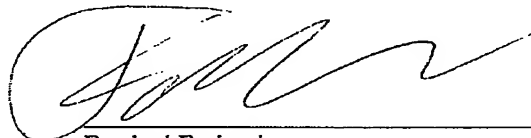
REMARKS

In the Office Action of September 5, 2006, the Examiner has stated that the pending claims of the present application fall within three (3) groups of distinct inventions, as follows: Group I: Claims 1-17; Group II: Claims 18-19; and Group III: Claims 20-21. By this amendment, applicant has canceled claims 18-21. After the present amendment, claims 1-17 remain in the present application.

Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I in response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action, dated September 5, 2006. Accordingly, applicant elects, without traverse, to prosecute claims 1-17 in the present application. Applicant has canceled claims 18-21 in the present application solely in response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action, dated September 5, 2006. Applicant hereby reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to claims 18-21, which are canceled by this amendment solely in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement.

Applicant respectfully requests an early examination and/or allowance of claims 1-17 pending in the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned for any comments or discussions regarding the present application.

Respectfully Submitted,
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